

Atty. Docket No. YOR920010538US1
(590.075)

REMARKS

The fact that October 23, 2005, fell on a Sunday ensures that this paper is timely filed as of Monday, October 24, 2005, the next business day.

In the Office Action dated August 23, 2005, pending Claims 1, 3-11, and 13-21 were rejected and the rejection made final. Of these claims, Claims 1, 11, and 21 are independent claims; the remaining claims are dependent claims. Claims 1, 11, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Parthasarathy et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,913,192. Claims 3-10 and 13-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response Applicants have filed herewith an Amendment After Final in which independent Claims 1 and 11 have been cancelled, Claims 3 and 13 have been rewritten in independent form, and Claim 21 has been rewritten. Applicants intend no change in the scope of the claims by the changes made by this amendment. It should also be noted these amendments are not in acquiescence of the Office's position on allowability of the claims, but merely to expedite prosecution.

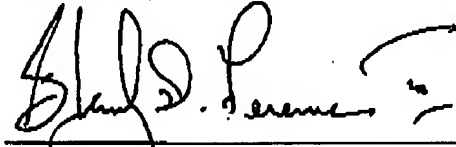
Specifically, Claims 3 and 13 have been rewritten in independent form and include all of the limitations of the base claims from which they previously depended (Claims 1 and 11, respectfully). In a similar manner, independent Claim 21 (a Beauregard claim) has been rewritten to include all of the same limitations now found in

Atty. Docket No. YOR920010538US1
(590.075)

corresponding independent method Claim 13; therefore, Applicants submit that claim 21 is immediately allowable as well.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 3, 13, and 21 are presently allowable. By virtue of their dependence from allowable claims 3 and 13 it is also submitted that claims 4-10 and 14-20 are also allowable at this juncture. Notice to the effect is hereby earnestly solicited. If there are any further issues in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Stanley D. Ference III
Registration No. 33,879

Customer No. 35195
FERENCE & ASSOCIATES
409 Broad Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15143
(412) 741-8400
(412) 741-9292 - Facsimile

Attorneys for Applicants